

Final Abstract Number: 53.021
 Session: Epidemiology & Public Health
 Date: Saturday, June 16, 2012
 Time: 12:45-14:15
 Room: Poster & Exhibition Area

Hospitalization costs for febrile neutropenia patients in a Singapore university hospital

J. Jin*, Y. Ding, S.E. Lim, Y.L. Chee, L.Y. Hsu

National University Health System, Singapore, Singapore

Background: Febrile neutropenia (FN) is a major cause of morbidity and mortality in haematology and oncology units worldwide. The majority of FN cases are managed as inpatients, and the published costs are high in European and American centers. However, the cost for FN management is rarely reported in Asian countries. Thus, the aim of this study is to investigate the cost of FN in a Singapore university hospital.

Methods: Clinical and epidemiological data on chemotherapy-induced FN episodes were collected from the inpatient records of subjects with hematological or oncological diagnoses. FN was defined as fever $> 38.0^{\circ}\text{C}$; neutrophil count $< 1.0 \times 10^9/\text{L}$. Financial data were obtained from the hospital's financial offices. Only the first FN episode occurred for each patient was reviewed. This study was approved by the institutional ethics review board.

Results: A total of 85 FN episodes were recorded and evaluated over a 1-year period from Aug 2009. 40 patients (47.1%) were female, and 58 patients (68.2%) were of Chinese ethnicity. The median age of subjects was 54yr (Range = 15–84 years). There were 44 (51.8%) patients with hematological diseases, and the most common diagnosis was B cell lymphoma (12, 27.3%), followed by AML (5, 11.4%). Among subjects with solid cancers, breast cancer (21, 48.8%) was the most common diagnosis. The median length of stay was 5 days (range = 1–34 days).

The median cost per FN episode was S\$ 4,857.0 (US\$ 3,903.1), and ranged from S\$ 1,073.9 to S\$ 72,023.7 (US\$ 862.9 to US\$ 57,871). The costs included fees for lab test, medications, surgery, hospitalization etc. Medications accounted for 10.2% of the total costs, and costs for antibiotics accounted for almost half of the medications bill (55.4% of the medication costs). The median cost per hospitalization day was S\$1091.3 (US\$ 876.9).

Conclusion: The cost of FN management is high in the Singapore context and adds a significant financial burden to the both the individual patient and the public healthcare system. Further investigations should be performed on FN prevention and how to decrease the FN costs.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ijid.2012.05.421>

Final Abstract Number: 53.022
 Session: Epidemiology & Public Health
 Date: Saturday, June 16, 2012
 Time: 12:45-14:15
 Room: Poster & Exhibition Area

The epidemiological and demographic study of cases of animal bites referred to Western Ahwaz Health Services Centers, Ahwaz, Southwestern Iran

H. Kassiri^{1,*}, A. Jashireh², R. Mousavi²

¹ Ahwaz Jundishapur University of Medical Sciences, School of Health, Ahwaz, Iran, Islamic Republic of

² West Ahwaz Health Services Centre, Ahwaz, Iran, Islamic Republic of

Background: Animal bite is defined as bite or claw wound from a pet, farm, or wild animal. Men are more often bitten by dogs than are women, whereas women are more often bitten by cats. Ten million people are bitten by animals around the world each year, from which almost 50000 people die annually. In the countries of the Eastern Mediterranean Region of the WHO, rabies has been recognized as an important health problem. Rabies is endemic in the wildlife population in Iran where the infection of domestic livestock is frequent. The objective of this research was to determine characteristics of the bitten persons, biting animals and bite wounds in western Ahwas, Iran.

Methods: All the health services centers in western Ahwaz were asked to complete a questionnaire for each case of animal bite referred to health centers or hospitals during the years mid/2003–2005. These questionnaires contained questions regarding the biting animal, age, gender, occupation, treatment and the other epidemiological characteristics. Data were analyzed in SPSS by using descriptive statistics.

Results: During the period of study, 2390 cases of animal bite were reported to western Ahwaz health centers. Of the 2390 studied patients 80.6% were male. The average incidence was 1.6 per 1000 population. Dog and cat bites were the most common, with frequency of 91.5% and 5.6% respectively. Feet (60.1%) and hands (31.1%) were the most commonly affected body parts. Bites were frequent among the age group of 10–19 years (35.9%), followed by 20–29 (21.5%), 0–9 (17%) and 30–39 years (10.3%) age groups. Those aged 40–49 years had the least frequency of animal bite (7.1%). Most of the victims were students (30.7%), followed by other jobs (18.8%), self-employed (16.5%) and housewives (12.7%). Around 59.5% of cases were in rural population.

Conclusion: The results of this study reflect the potential dangers of animal bite in Ahwaz County concluding that the different aspects of the disease should be high lighted in health education activities.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ijid.2012.05.422>